

REMARKS

The text and the status of allowed claims 1-5 and 11, and withdrawn claim 12, have been presented above. It is believed that the presentation of the text thereof above satisfies the requirements of the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed December 30, 2003. Claims 1-12 remain in the application, claim 12 having been withdrawn from consideration.

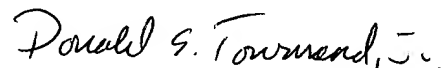
In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in consideration for allowance, and early action and allowance thereof is accordingly respectfully requested. In the event there is any reason why the application cannot be allowed at the present time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the number listed below to resolve any problems.

Respectfully submitted

TOWNSEND & BANTA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donald E. Townsend', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Donald E. Townsend
Reg. No. 22,069

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donald E. Townsend, Jr.', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Donald E. Townsend, Jr.
Reg. No. 43,198

Date: January 26, 2004